Ragging in educational institutions

†486. DR. CHHATTRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of ragging being practiced in the educational institutions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last five years, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the action Government propose to prevent ragging in the educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The Government has taken serious note of the problem of ragging in Universities/Colleges and a strict watch is being maintained by the universities and colleges on any untoward developments. No centralized data is being maintained in regard to cases of ragging.

In order to explore the measures for curbing of ragging in Universities and Colleges, the UGC has constituted an expert committee in September, 1999. The report of the expert committee was circulated to all universities for necessary action. The directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Petition No. 656 of 1998 on curbing the menace of ragging in the educational institutions have also been circulated to all the State/ UT Governments/universities for strict compliance. The Commission has also invited the attention of the universities to the report of the committee constituted by the I.I.T., Delhi on measures to curb ragging. AICTE has also issued instructions to all the State Secretaries (Technical Education) and Vice-Chancellors of Technical Universities for taking necessary steps to prevent ragging in the Institutes.

Upgradation of engineering institutions

487. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had set up a three members technical committee to do a reality check on the short listed engineering institutions for upgradation to the status of Indian Institute of Technology;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of the proposals received from the engineering institutions across the country and the institutions shortlisted by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Committee has been constituted with Prof. M. Anand Krishnan as convener and Prof. A. Ghosh and Prof. D.V. Singh as members to examine the vision documents of the short listed Engineering Institutions for upgradation to the level of IITs.

(c) Initially, 200 institutions were considered by an Expert Committee headed by Prof. S.K. Joshi. The Committee identified the following 7 institutions in order of merit for upgradation to the level of IITs:-

1. Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
2. University College of Engineering combined with the University College of Technology, both belonging to Osmania University, Hyderabad.
3. Bengal Engineering College, Howrah.
4. Jadavpur University's Engineering and Technology Departments.
5. Zakir Hussain College of Engineering and Technology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
6. Andhra University College of Engineering, Vishakhapatnam and
7. Cochin University of Science and Technology, Cochin.

Cooking cost under NP-NSPE

488. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Centre for assistance to meet the cooking cost under NP-NSPE, 2004 and for establishment of 7 new DIETs and upgradation of CTE (Gulbarga) as IASE; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?